# SEARCHES FOR LOW-MASS HIGGS AND DARK BOSONS AT BABAR

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# Introduction

- The Standard Model scenario suffers from quadratic divergences and several models have been suggested to solve the problem
- In these models additional fields are introduced, and low-mass Higgs' bosons (in the GeV/c<sup>2</sup> mass range), and gauge bosons, are possible
- The search for such particles can be fruitfully exploited at lowenergy/high luminosity e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> machines (ex. B factories)
  - Constraints on parameter space can help understanding the most recent experimental observation of SM Higgs' boson
- BaBar is pursuing a complete program to search for such states in several decay modes (leptons, hadrons, invisible) in
  - radiative decays of  $\Upsilon(nS)$  resonances (Wilczek)
  - Higgs-strahlung (and pair production) processes from e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>−</sup>

# SEARCHES FOR LOW-MASS HIGGS



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# **Theoretical motivations**

- Among the models which include the possibility of a light Higgs: NMSSM
  - Solves the hierarchy problem
  - Adds to MSSM a total of 2 CP-odd + 3 CP-even + 2 charged Higgs
  - Lightest CP-odd Higgs (A<sup>0</sup>): mixing of a singlet CP-odd singlet Higgs' field and the CP-odd scalar doublet of MSSM:
    - $A^0 = \cos\theta_A a_{MSSM} + \sin\theta_A a_{SM}$
  - Lightest Higgs: mass < 2m<sub>b</sub>
  - Production: radiative decays  $\Upsilon(nS) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$  (n=1,2,3)



can have large branching fractions, up to 10<sup>-3</sup>



–  $A^0$  decays: into ff with BF depending on tan $\beta$  and  $m_{A^0}$ 

$$BR(A^{0} \to f\overline{f}) \propto \cos\theta_{A}m_{f}^{2} / \tan^{2}\beta$$
$$BR(A^{0} \to f\overline{f}) \propto \cos\theta_{A}m_{f}^{2} \tan^{2}\beta$$

Up-type fermions: u, c, t,  $\nu_{e}, \nu_{\mu}, \nu_{\tau}$ 

Down-type fermions: d, s, b, e,  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$ 

# A<sup>0</sup> searches at BaBar

 $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) radiative decays

 $_{\sim} \Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^{\circ}$ ¥(3S)  $E_{\gamma}^{*} = \frac{m_{\Upsilon}^2 - m_A^2}{2m_{\pi}}$ 

- Search for a monochromatic photon in the recoil mass spectrum
  - $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0; A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ PRL103, 081803 (2009)
  - $\Upsilon(3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0; A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ PRL103, 181801 (2009)
  - $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$ ;  $A^0 \rightarrow$  hadrons PRL107, 221803 (2011)
  - $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$ ;  $A^0 \rightarrow$  invisible arXiv: 0808.0017

Method: scan as a function of  $m_{A_0}$  of its production×decay yield by means of extended unbinned likelihood fits

 $\Upsilon$ (1S) radiative decays



- $\Upsilon$ (1S) selected by tagging the dipion in  $\Upsilon(2,3S) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon(1S)$  transitions
- Less background, reduced using missing mass and dipion recoil mass
- Monochromatic photon in  $\Upsilon(1S)$  rest frame
  - $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0$ ;  $A^0 \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ PRL107, 021804 (2011)
  - $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0; A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- This talk  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0; A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ arXiv:1210 5660 ~~ arXiv:1210.5669 accepted by PRD-RC
  - $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0; A^0 \rightarrow gg \text{ or } S\overline{S}$ PRD88, 031701 (2013)

#### $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon$ (1S), $\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow$ PRD87, 031102 (2013)

- Substantial background reduction as compared to  $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) direct rad. decays
- Sample: 93M Υ(3S) + 117M Υ(2S)
- Selection: one photon  $E^* > 200 \text{ MeV} + 4$ Events/(0.20 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) charged tracks: at least one  $\mu$  + dipion from  $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S)  $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon$ (1S)
  - Additional soft  $\gamma$ 's accepted, E\* < 200 MeV
  - All tracks from same vertex ( $e^+e^-$  IP)
  - Beam-energy constraints on  $\Upsilon(2S,3S)$ 
    - improve  $A^0$  resolution (2-9 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>)
- Backgrounds:
  - Continuum: QED  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$
  - Peaking: ISR production of  $\rho^0$ ,  $\psi(2S)$  and J/ $\psi$ (only in  $\Upsilon$ (3S) sample)  $\Rightarrow J/\psi$  excluded
- Yield extracted from  $m_{R} = \sqrt{m_{\mu\mu}^2 4m_{\mu}^2}$ 
  - Max significance:
    - $\Upsilon(2S)$ :  $S = 3.62\sigma @ 7.85 \text{ GeV/c}^2$
    - Υ(3S): *S* = 2.97σ @ 3.78 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
    - Combined: *S* = 3.24σ @ 3.88 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
    - **Compatible with null hypothesis**



#### $\Upsilon(2S,3S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \Upsilon(1S), \Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ PRD87, 031102 (2013)

- 90% C.L. Bayesian upper limits in the range 0.  $212 \le m_{A_0} \le 9.20 \text{ GeV/c}^2$ 
  - For the combined dataset:

 $B(Y(1S) \to \gamma A^0) \times B(A^0 \to \mu^+ \mu^-) = (0.29 - 9.7) \times 10^{-6}$ 

- Improvement of a factor 2-3 of the previous limits for m<sub>A0</sub> < 1.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- Comparable to former BaBar results for  $1.20 \leq m_{A^0} \leq \ 3.6 \ \text{GeV/c}^2 \ (\text{PRD103,081803(2009)})$
- Can be combined with direct Υ(2S, 3S) results to set a limit to the *effective* Yukawa Higgs-b quark coupling:

$$\frac{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \gamma A^0)}{B(Y(nS) \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-)} = \frac{f_Y^2}{2\pi\alpha} \left(1 - \frac{m_{A^0}^2}{m_{Y(ns)}^2}\right)$$

• For  $m_{A_0} \le 9.20 \text{ GeV/c}^2$  :

$$f_{\rm Y}^2 \times B(A^0 \to \mu^+ \mu^-) = (0.29 - 40) \times 10^{-6}$$



#### $\Upsilon$ (2S) $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon$ (1S), $\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^$ arXiv:1210.5669 (2012), accepted by PRD-RC

- Sample: 98M Υ(2S)
- Selection: one photon E\* > 200 MeV + 4 charged tracks: at least one lepton (τ decay, 5 combinations) + tagging dipion
  - Additional soft  $\gamma$ 's accepted, E\* > 30 MeV
- Backgrounds:
  - Continuum: QED  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma \tau^+ \tau^- + 2\gamma$  events
  - Peaking: radiative leptonic  $\Upsilon(1S)$  decays
- Yield extracted from recoil mass of the dipion system (Υ(1S)) and missing mass (Υ(1S) γ):
  - Scan range in two intervals with different optimizations:
    - 3.6  $\leq m_{A0} \leq$  8 GeV/c² (Low)
    - $8.0 \le m_{A^0} \le 9.2 \text{ GeV/c}^2$  (High)
  - Max significance:
    - $S = 2.7\sigma @ 6.36 \text{ GeV/c}^2$
    - S = 3.0σ @ 8.93 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
    - No significant signal observed





 $\Upsilon(2S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \Upsilon(1S), \Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow$ arXiv:1210.5669 (2012), accepted by PRD-RC 90% C.L. Bayesian upper limit in the range Upper Limit B( $A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ )  $3.6 \le m_{A0} \le 9.2 \text{ GeV/c}^2$ €10\*  $B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0) \times B(A^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-) = (0.9 - 13) \times 10^{-5}$ Combined with  $\Upsilon$ (3S) results to set a limit to 104 the Yukawa Higgs-b quark coupling:  $\frac{B(Y(nS) \to \gamma A^0)}{B(Y(nS) \to \ell^+ \ell^-)} = \frac{g_b^2 G_F m_b^2}{\sqrt{2\pi\alpha}} \mathcal{F}_{QCD} \left( 1 - \frac{m_{A^0}^2}{m_{Y(ns)}^2} \right)$  $g_{\lambda}^{2} \times B(\Lambda^{0} \rightarrow \pi) \text{ UL } @ 90\% \text{ C.L}$ BaBar Y(1S)→ y A<sup>®</sup> BaBar Y(3S)→γA<sup>®</sup> BaBar Combined For  $m_{A0} \le 9.2 \text{ GeV/c}^2$ : NMSSM CLEO Y(1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^{0}$  $g_b^2 \times B(A^0 \to \tau^+ \tau^-) = (0.09 - 1.9)$  $g_{\rm b} = \tan\beta \cos\theta_{\rm A} \Longrightarrow$  much of the parameter 10-1 space preferred by NSSM (>1) is ruled out m<sub>A0</sub> (GeV)

#### $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon$ (1S), $\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0, A^0 \rightarrow gg, S\overline{S}$ PRD88, 031701 (2013)

- Sample: 122M Υ(3S) + 99M Υ(2S)
- Selection: one photon E\* > 200 MeV + 2 charged tracks (dipion from Υ(2S) transitions) + hadronic system from A<sup>0</sup> decay products (26 reactions)
  - PID of K,  $\pi$ , p (s $\overline{s}$ : reactions with at least 2K)
  - A<sup>0</sup> reconstruction: exclude 2-body FS
    - A CP-odd Higgs cannot decay in 2 pseudoscalars
  - Beam-energy constraints on  $\Upsilon(2S)$
- Backgrounds:
  - $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow ggg, \rightarrow \gamma gg$  with gluon hadronization
- Yield extracted from background subtracted mass spectrum
  - $\quad \text{Range: } 0.5 < m_{A^0} < 9 \; \text{GeV/c}^2$
  - Largest upward fluctuations:
    - gg: 2.7σ @ 8.13 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
    - ss: 3.2σ @ 8.63 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

# Channel	# Channel
$1 \pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{0}$	$14 K^+ K^- \pi^+ \pi^-$
$2 \pi^{+}\pi^{-}2\pi^{0}$	$15 K^+ K^- \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$
$3 \ 2\pi^+2\pi^-$	$16 K^{\pm}K^{0}_{s}\pi^{\mp}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$
4 $2\pi^+ 2\pi^- \pi^0$	$17 K^+ K^- \eta$
$5 \ \pi^+\pi^-\eta$	$18 K^+ K^- 2 \pi^+ 2 \pi^-$
6 $2\pi^+2\pi^-2\pi^0$	19 $K^{\pm}K^{0}_{s}\pi^{\mp}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}2\pi^{0}$
7 $3\pi^+3\pi^-$	$20 K^+ K^- 2\pi^+ 2\pi^- \pi^0$
8 $2\pi^{+}2\pi^{-}\eta$	$21 \ K^+ K^- 2\pi^+ 2\pi^- 2\pi^0$
9 $3\pi^+3\pi^-2\pi^0$	$22 K^{\pm} K_s^0 \pi^{\mp} 2\pi^+ 2\pi^- \pi^0$
$10  4\pi^+ 4\pi^-$	$23 K^+K^-3\pi^+3\pi^-$
$11 \ K^+ K^- \pi^0$	$24 \ 2K^+2K^-$
$12 \ K^{\pm} K^{0}_{S} \pi^{\mp}$	$25 \ p\bar{p}\pi^0$
$13 K^+ K^- 2\pi^0$	$26 \ p\bar{p}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$



#### $\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\Upsilon$ (1S), $\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0$ , $A^0 \rightarrow gg$ , SS PRD88, 031701 (2013)

- How often such a statistical fluctuation can occur in simulated experiments:
  - gg: 86%
  - s<del>s</del>: 59%
  - No evidence for A<sup>0</sup> signal in the hadronic mass spectra, nor other hadronic resonances

• 90% C.L. Bayesian upper limits in the range  $0.5 < m_{A0} < 9. \text{ GeV/c}^2$ 

$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0) \times B(A^0 \rightarrow gg) = 10^{-6} - 10^{-2}$$

$$B(Y(1S) \rightarrow \gamma A^0) \times B(A^0 \rightarrow s\bar{s}) = 10^{-5} - 10^{-3}$$

The limits are less stringent than what obtained in the leptonic decays



# Parameter space excluded by the data

 Upper limits for A<sup>0</sup> coupling to b-quarks from several Babar measurements

 $(g_b = \cos\theta_A \tan\beta)$ 





The boxes indicate the ranges permitted by the experimental measurements for different massed

- The space above the upper edge of the boxes is excluded
- Strong constraints on the parameter space

# SEARCHES FOR DARK BOSONS



#### Dark sector gauge bosons: search motivations

- Several clear experimental evidences for the existence of Dark Matter from terrestrial and satellite experiments
  - PAMELA, INTEGRAL, ATIC, DAMA/LIBRA, CREST, HESS, ...
    - 511 keV photon flux from the Galactic center (1-10 MeV e<sup>+</sup>/e<sup>-</sup> source?)
    - Positron and electron fluxes (NO protons/antiprotons!)
    - Annual modulation signal
- These (+null) results can be thoroughly interpreted resorting to a new hidden U(1)<sub>DARK</sub> gauge group which couples to U(1)<sub>Y</sub>
  - Kinetic mixing of dark matter particles to SM ones through a dark photon:  $\epsilon F^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu}$ 
    - Small coupling **E**
    - Typical range:  $10^{-6} \le \varepsilon \le 10^{-2}$
    - Gauge bosons produced in DM annihilation



- Massive dark photon A' generated via Higgs' mechanism (dark Higgs h' added to the theory)
  - Expected mass: at most few GeV/c<sup>2</sup>, if coming from TeV/c<sup>2</sup> mass DM
  - Observable at B factories: low background environment

#### Dark sector gauge bosons: signatures

- Through the kinetic coupling the dark photon A' gets an effective charge by which it couples to SM fermions
  - Coupling strength:  $\alpha' = \alpha \epsilon^2$
  - Large coupling to electrons and muons at low masses
- Light dark-Higgs boson
  - Decays into 2 dark bosons
  - $m_{h'} > 2 m_{A'}$ : prompt decay
  - m<sub>h'</sub> < m<sub>A'</sub>: prompt or displaced
  - Higgs' production: Higgs-strahlung  $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'h', h' \rightarrow A'A'$



Batell et al, PRD79, 115008 (2009)

#### 1.00 e'e Decay BF 0.50 hadrons 0.20 0.10 $\mu^{\dagger}\mu^{\dagger}$ 0.05 $\tau^+\tau^-$ 0.02 0.01 2.0 0.1 0.2 0.5 1.0 5.0 10.0m<sub>A'</sub> (GeV)

dark photon branching fraction





#### 16

### Dark Higgs searches at BaBar PRL108, 211801 (2012)

- Higgs-strahlung:
  - only suppressed by one power in  $\epsilon$
- Constraint: m<sub>h'</sub> > 2 m<sub>A'</sub>
- Ranges:
  - $0.8 \leq m_{h^\prime} \leq ~10~GeV/c^2$
  - $0.25 \leq m_{A'} \leq 3 \text{ GeV/}c^2$
- Data: full dataset, 516 fb<sup>-1</sup>
- Selection:
  - Exclusive mode: 6 fermions in pairs of opposite charge/flavor
    - Full reconstruction of the 3A'
      - similar masses
      - e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>−</sup> c.m. energy constraint
      - Same vertex (IP)
  - Inclusive mode: 2 lepton pairs for A' + X
    - 2 similar masses for A'
    - 3rd A' from missing mass
- Background: wrong sign combinations
- 6 events found (each: 3 entries)



#### 

No event by 6 leptons Signal consistent with background

## Dark Higgs searches at BaBar PRL108, 211801 (2012)

- 90% C.L. Bayesian upper limit on the production cross section: (10-100) ab
- 90% C.L Bayesian upper limit on α'ε<sup>2</sup> as a function of m<sub>h'</sub> and m<sub>A'</sub>: 10<sup>-10</sup>-10<sup>-8</sup>



- $\alpha' = \alpha$ : limits on the mixing strength  $\epsilon^2$ 
  - **10**<sup>-4</sup>-**10**<sup>-3</sup>
  - One order of magnitude smaller than current bounds
    - substantial improvement if a light dark Higgs (< 5-7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) exists



Limit on  $\varepsilon^2 = \alpha' / \alpha$  assuming  $\alpha_n = \alpha_{m}$  for various Higgs mass





# **CONCLUSIONS**



# Summary and outlook

- Low energy e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> colliders provide a clean environment to look for MeV-GeV Higgs' and dark sector bosons
- BaBar searched for evidence of two kinds of light Higgs' particles:
  - Light Higgs favored by NMSSM
    - Comprehensive searches using a variety of  $\Upsilon(nS)$  decay channels
    - Significant constraints on NMSSM parameter space
  - Dark Higgs (and gauge bosons) suggested by dark sector models
    - Searches for signals from Higgs-strahlung
    - Constraints on the coupling parameters
  - No evidence observed so far
    - Upper limits O(10<sup>-6</sup>-10<sup>-5</sup>) on cascade branching fractions
  - Further searches still in progress
    - $A^0$  decaying in  $\gamma\gamma$ ,  $C\overline{C}$
    - Dark photon:  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A'$ ;  $A' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ ,  $\mu^+\mu^-$ , hadrons, invisible



# **BACKUP SLIDES**

# The BaBar experiment at PEP-II, SLAC



# Summary of current A<sup>0</sup> BF upper limits from BaBar

reaction	Upper limit (10 <sup>-5</sup> ) @ 90% CL	m <sub>A0</sub> range (GeV/c²)	Reference
Υ(2S,3S) → $\gamma$ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → $\mu^+\mu^-$	0.026 - 0.83 (Ƴ(2S)) 0.027 - 0.55 (Ƴ(3S))	0.212 – 9.3	PRL103, 081803 (2009)
$\Upsilon$ (1S) → γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → μ <sup>+</sup> μ <sup>-</sup>	0.028 - 0.97	0.212 – 9.3	PRD87, 031102 (2013)
$\Upsilon$ (3S) → γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → τ <sup>+</sup> τ <sup>-</sup>	1.5 - 16	4.03 - 10.10	PRL103, 181801 (2009)
$\Upsilon$ (1S) → γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → τ <sup>+</sup> τ <sup>-</sup>	0.9 - 13	3.6 - 9.2	arXiv:1210.5669 (2012)
$\Upsilon$ (2S,3S) $\rightarrow$ γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> $\rightarrow$ hadr	0.1 - 8	0.3 – 7	PRL107, 221803 (2011)
$\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0$ , $A^0 \rightarrow gg$	0.1 - 1000	0.5 – 9	PRD88, 031701 (2013)
$\Upsilon$ (1S) $\rightarrow \gamma A^0$ , $A^0 \rightarrow s\bar{s}$	1-100	0.5 – 9	PRD88, 031701 (2013)
$\Upsilon$ (3S) → γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → invisible	0.07 - 3.1	3 - 7.6	arXiv:0808.0017 (2008)
Υ(1S) → γ A <sup>0</sup> , A <sup>0</sup> → invisible	0.19 – 0.45 0.27 – 37	0 – 8 8 – 9.2	PRL107, 021804 (2011)

## Limits on dark photon searches at BaBar

 All searches for a light Higgs can be re-interpreted looking for a spin 1 A' boson in its ff decay



Exclusion of almost all the "g-2 preferred" region